



ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NO.: 11603.4004

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF:

Confirmation No.: 3967

Applicant: Mohammed Gomma ABUTALUB et al

Examiner: Philip Sobutka

Serial No.: 09/885,580

Group Art Unit: 2684

Filed: June 19, 2001

Title: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR IMMARSAT
CAPACITY EXPANSION AND CONTROL

COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Commissioner for Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Customer Service Window, Randolph Building
401 Dulany Street
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

Sir:

With respect to the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance for the allowed claims as set forth in Notice of Allowability dated July 29, 2005, and as restated in the Notice of Allowability of January 17, 2006, Applicants agree with the Examiner that the pending claims are allowable over the prior art. However, the pending claims recite a combination of features, and patentability of these claims resides in those combinations. As such, there may be additional basis for patentability beyond those specifically identified by the Examiner.

Date: March 10, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

Scott D. Watkins
Reg. No. 36,715
STEPTOE & JOHNSON LLP
1330 Connecticut Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036
Tel: (202) 429-3000
Fax: (202) 429-3902